The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users which are as under:

(i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and National Highways Authority of India.

(v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media.

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(ix) Provision of cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/ NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation and Maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

Road accidents

1333. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of road accidents that took place in India during the last five years year-wise;

(b) the number of persons who died during the last five years due to road accidents, year-wise; and the steps being taken by Government to minimize the road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) As per the report by the States/UTs, the details regarding number of road accidents and persons killed thereof on All Roads during the years 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 (the latest available data) are as under:-

Year	Road Accidents	No. of persons killed in road accidents
2001	405637	80888
2002	407497	84674
2003	406726	85998
2004	429910	92618
2005	439255	94968

(c) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users, which are as under:

(i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI.

(v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media.

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(ix) Provision of cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/ NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation and Maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.